

British Columbia. [H.L.]

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INTITULED

An Act to make further provision for
the Government of British Columbia.

(Brought from the Lords 25 July 1870.)



Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
3 August 1870.

[Bill 257.]

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An Act to make further provision for the Government of British Columbia. A.D. 1870.

WHEREAS in pursuance of the powers vested in Her Majesty by an Act passed in the session holden in the twenty-first and twenty-second years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to provide for the Government of British Columbia," Her Majesty did, by an Order in Council, bearing date the eleventh day of June one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, constitute a Legislature consisting of the Governor and a Legislative Council in the said colony of British Columbia : Preamble. 21 & 22 Vict. c. 99.

And whereas by the British Columbia Act of 1866 Vancouver Island was united to British Columbia and made subject to the said Legislature, and the number of the Legislative Council was increased so as to provide for the representation of Vancouver Island :

And whereas it is expedient to alter the constitution of the said Legislature :

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

1. This Act may be cited as "The British Columbia Government Act, 1870." Short title.

2. For the purposes of this Act, the term "Governor" shall mean the officer for the time being administering the government of British Columbia. Interpretation of term "Governor."

3. Her Majesty may, by any Order or Orders in Council, revoke the said recited Order in Council, and may from time to time make, and when made revoke or alter, Orders in Council for constituting a Legislature consisting of the Governor and a Legislative Council for the said colony, and may by any such Order make such provisions Power to Her Majesty by Order in Council to constitute a Legislature.

[Bill 257.]



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A.D. 1870. — and regulations respecting the constitution, powers, and proceedings of the said Legislature or either branch thereof, the number, the appointment, and election of the members of the Legislative Council, their tenure of office, and generally in respect to such Legislature or either branch thereof, as may seem to her expedient. 5

Power to
Her Majesty
to delegate
certain
powers to
the Governor
of British
Columbia.

4. Her Majesty may from time to time, by any such Order or Orders in Council, empower the Governor of the said colony, with or without any conditions or restrictions, by proclamation, to determine the qualification of electors and of elective members of the Legislative Council, and to make provision for the division 10 of the said colony into convenient electoral districts; for the registration of persons qualified to vote, and the compilation and revision of lists of all such persons; for the appointment of returning officers; for the issuing, executing, and returning the necessary writs for the election of members to the said Legislative Council; 15 for taking the poll thereat, and determining the validity of all disputed returns; and generally for securing the orderly, effective, and impartial conduct of such elections, and to revoke any proclamation previously made.

